

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. MAYOR

BARBARA W. VAUGHN DIRECTOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

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## CITY OF CHARLESTON DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION RECEIVES AWARDS

*Charleston,SC.* The City of Charleston Department of Recreation received three awards last night at the annual South Carolina Recreation and Parks Association (SCRPA) Conference. The conference was joined with North Carolina this year and was held in Winston-Salem, NC, November 15-17<sup>th</sup> with the awards banquet on Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Listed below are the awards the City of Charleston Department of Recreation received:

- The City of Charleston Department of Recreation was presented with the Agency of the Year Award for 2009 Class IV (50,000 population and above). The Selection Committee was impressed with the quality of programs the City of Charleston offers and the innovations by staff to meet the ever-changing needs of the city service area.
- The City of Charleston Department of Recreation was presented with the **Innovative Program of the Year Class IV**. The City of Charleston works in partnership with Carolina Studios, a non-profit organization led by Hootie and the Blowfish guitarist Mark Bryan, to offer children and teens free music writing and recording experience through their studios in the City's Forest Park Playground and the Boys and Girls Club Shaw Unit.
- Stacey Collins will be presented the District Merit Award Southern District of SCRPA. Stacey is an Athletic Coordinator who oversees youth and women's soccer for the City of Charleston Department of Recreation. Stacey has also served as the Vice President of the South Carolina Athletic Program committee during 2009 representing the Southern District.

Laurie Yarbrough, Director of the City of Charleston Recreation Department, attended the Conference to accept the Agency of the Year Award. Pam Zanowski, Programs Superintendent, attended the Conference to accept the Innovative Program award, and Stacey Collins attended the Conference to accept her award.

Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. said, "The caliber and diversity of the programs offered by our great staff of the Recreation Department is impressive and serves our community well. I am so proud of the department, led by Laurie Yarborough. They care about the people they serve and work hard to provide the very best."

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